

National Chapter Sifting Judge's Comments from March 8, 2011

The judges are always inspired by the reading about the good work of FFA chapters across the State of Idaho. We would like to encourage chapters that are not currently participating in the National Chapter Award Program to give it a try. We feel this truly demonstrates the impact of an FFA chapter to the students, school and community. NatChap 101 would be an excellent workshop at the State FFA Leadership Conference and could be taught by advisors/FFA members from NatChap Gold chapters.

General comments on the best NatChap applications

- It was evident that the activities were planned and executed by the chapter. Activities that are not planned and executed by the chapter should not be included, e.g. attending a school-wide assembly on personal safety.
- The activities were related to the division (student, chapter, community).
- It was evident that instructions were read and followed.
- The application had been checked for spelling and grammatical errors.
- It is easy to connect each goal to a plan of action and the results/evaluation of the goal. This was generally accomplished by numbering system. When all the information is combined into a general narrative about all the goals, the connection between goals, plans of action, and results becomes more difficult.

It is also recommended that when a chapter is planning the program of activities, they use the National Chapter Award standards as a template. Plan a minimum of three activities each in the three divisions (student, chapter, community). The activities should:

- Have three activities for each division (student, chapter, community)
- The activities relate to the division
- Have three (3) measurable goals for each activity
- Have a plan of action and method for evaluating each goal